

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg, recessed from March 21, was held on the 28th day of March, 2006, at 1:00 P.M., Second Floor Training Room, City Hall, Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding several items. The following Members were present:

Present: Dodson, Foster, Gillette, Helgeson, Johnson, Seiffert, Hutcherson

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Absent:

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// Council Member Gillette, who served as Chair of the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC), presented a brief overview regarding the Committee's recommendations for allocation of FY2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds. Council Member Johnson expressed concern that no funding was recommended for the Jubilee Family Life Center Occupational Program or the Legacy Museum, and Vice Mayor Foster questioned why only two of the programs that address the needs of the homeless were recommended for funding. Council Member Gillette explained the Committee's reasoning in these regards, stating that the Committee had to set priorities in light of an increased number of requests received this year versus a decreased amount of funding. City Council discussed some changes to the Committee's recommendations, i.e., reduce Spot Blight Abatement/Acquisition (LRHA) from \$120,000 to \$110,000 and allocate the \$10,000 to Affordable Housing Loans (Lynchburg Neighborhood Development Foundation); and reduce Athletic Mentorship & Behavior Modification Program (Dominion Sports) from \$14,000 to \$9,000 and allocate the \$5,000 to the Legacy Museum. City Council also asked Administrative and Grants Coordinator Melva Walker to determine if there are additional CDBG funds that could be reprogrammed to the Affordable Housing Loans program. Following discussion, Ms. Walker stated that this item will be scheduled for the April 11 meeting for final approval of the allocations for the proposed projects.

// Parks and Recreation Director Kay Frazier along with Athletic Fields Task Force Chair Al Billingsly presented a brief overview regarding the short term as well as long term recommendations adopted by the Task Force on March 23, 2006. Mr. Billingsly stated that the recommendations are to be presented to the School Board next week. In response to Council questioning, City Manager Kimball Payne outlined some possible funding sources to fund the additional monies needed to complete all of the short term requests.

// Acting Fire Marshal Michael Thomas distributed a revised draft of a proposed Ordinance to amend the City's Fire Prevention Code. Acting Fire Marshal Thomas provided a brief overview regarding the proposed changes, explaining that the changes reflect the current edition of the State Fire Code. City Manager Kimball Payne stated that this item is scheduled for formal adoption by City Council at the 5:00 p.m. meeting.

// Deputy City Manager Bonnie Svrcek along with Communications and Marketing Director JoAnn Martin reviewed with City Council some options regarding possible policy questions along with two suggestions for the open-ended question for the 2006 Citizen Survey. Following discussion, Council chose as the policy questions the second "diamond" question with rewording and the last "diamond" question and asked that staff develop the third question. City Council chose the first open-ended question for use in the survey.

// City Manager Kimball Payne stated that a petition signed by a number of downtown stakeholders was recently received requesting that the City reestablish two-way traffic on Church and Main Streets. Mr. Payne asked for direction from City Council with regard to this request. Council Member Gillette expressed concern regarding the accuracy of the names on the petition and stated that he would like to see developed a more accurate way to ascertain exactly what the downtown stakeholders really want and also that any conversion be coordinated with the Lynchburg Parking Authority. Other Council Members also expressed interest in developing a mechanism that would more accurately gather input from the downtown stakeholders regarding the conversion from one-way to two-way traffic. City Manager Payne stated that he would contact Lynch's Landing Executive Director regarding this matter. Council Member Helgeson asked to receive a copy of the consultant's report regarding the proposed conversion.

// Economic Development Director Mary Jane Russell along with Industrial Development Authority Board Member Bill Speidell provided a brief overview regarding the Lynchburg Industrial Development Authority 2006 Business Development Policy. Ms. Russell distributed a listing of recent Lynchburg Industrial Development Authority awarded incentives stating that the City received \$63,677,047 and 1,424 new jobs on the City's investment of \$1,341,472.

// During roll call, Council Member Helgeson stated that he would like to see some type of recognition for the Liberty University basketball team in participating in its 10th "in a row" Big South Conference. Mayor Hutcherson stated that he would contact the Community and Marketing Director to see what could be done. Council Member Seiffert informed that a request will be coming to City Council asking for some type of recognition for Lynchburg native Desmond Doss, a World War II medic who received the Congressional Medal of Honor. Vice Mayor Foster informed regarding overgrown shrubs on 1st Street between Madison and Harrison and on 2nd Street between Federal and Harrison. In response to City Manager Payne's inquiry, City Council agreed to conduct a work session regarding the new Landscape Ordinance on May 9 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

// City Council conducted a work session regarding the Proposed FY 2007 – 2011 Capital Improvements Program.

// City Council recessed at 4:15 p.m. to reconvene the meeting at 4:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, in order to recognize the City's Catch A Star employees.

// The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Clerk of Council